

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 779

By Finney R.

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Derek Cotter, 2008  
Valedictorian of Sevier County High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Derek Cotter is one such exceptional student who was recently named Valedictorian of the 2008 graduating class at Sevier County High School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Derek has achieved outstanding academic success and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in his remarkable high school career, Mr. Cotter has earned an exemplary 4.0 grade point average while participating in a number of extracurricular activities, including the basketball team, the track and field team, the cross-country team, and the Beta Club; and

WHEREAS, his astute performance in the classroom has garnered Mr. Cotter several awards, including recognition in the subjects of Computer Applications, Spanish I, Chemistry, Unified Geometry, Spanish III, Trigonometry, English III Honors, and the 2007-2008 "Best All Around" superlative; and

WHEREAS, his dedication on the field of competition gained him the 110% basketball award and recognition as a State Finalist in the 4x400 relay; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded individual, he has donated his time and energies to Sevierville Primary School and as a state delegate to the 2007 American Legion Boys State; he is also a devout member of the Jones Chapel Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Derek's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for his future success; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cotter's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his parents, Kathy Cotter and John Cotter, his school, and his community; and

WHEREAS, Derek Cotter's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor the 2008 Sevier County High School Valedictorian, Derek Cotter, on his impressive academic achievement and extend to him our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.